



Press Release

Commander Navy Installations Command

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ALL MILITARY, DON CIVILIANS AND FAMILY MEMBERS IN THE GULF REGIONS ARE ASKED TO CALL THE KATRINA HOTLINE AT 1-877-414-5358 TO CHECK IN AND RECEIVE INFORMATION ON ASSISTANCE.

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CNI IT Department Brings Installations Back Online

Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNI) and Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) have teamed up to help bring communications back to installations affected by Hurricane Katrina.

NRL has offered up some of their assets to help in the hurricane relief, according to Tina Donbeck, CNI's Information Technology (IT) Program Manager, Applications Branch. "NRL has offered up their Infralynx Assured Communications System. It consists of two mobile communication vans, which will deploy to the Gulf Coast and provide classified and unclassified connections. The vans also have Satellite capabilities that will help with radio communications," she said.

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CNI's IT Department is also helping to set up wireless connectivity for the ships in Mayport, Fla. "It is a combination of working with the wireless and original old fashioned fiber to bring up all the ships," said Kim Newton, CNI IT. "We are making the ships wireless so that the ships being relocated from Pascagoula, Miss., can use the fiber lines Sept. 1 we were able to bring up the USS Hue City (CG-66) on wireless, both voice and data, enabling them to communicate through all this crisis and thus allowing some of

The other ships to use the other allowable resources at the piers. Feedback from the ship says their voice connectivity is better than they have ever had it. Only five days into the new system and already we are receiving positive feedback," she said.

CNI also sent six sets of wireless equipment and a team of experts, (about twenty people) to Pensacola, Fla., to equip six more ships that will be arriving at their new temporary homeport of Pensacola," added Newton.

The Navy Marines Corps Intranet (NMCI) branch of IT got the communications ball rolling earlier in the week by setting up the Emergency Operations Center at the CNI Headquarters building. This center is the hub of all the Hurricane Katrina communications activity between CNI and the installations.